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**Attention: Public Health Committee**

Email: PHC.Testimony@cga.ct.gov

**Subject: Testimony for Public Hearing on HB 5537, section 6  
Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:30, LOB, Hartford.**

I have a child with Autism who receives both ABA and SLP services. ABA is not currently within the scope of practice of this profession. I am against HB5537, section 6.

SLP's are invaluable to many people and thus help many people, but this profession is not interchangeable with provision of behavior analytic services. The current SLP scope of practice statement is at the heart of this testimony. SLP's and Behavior Analysts each have our own areas of training and expertise, and a defined scope of practice that is derived from that training, as well as by state laws. Please help protect consumers of ABA services, and the scope of practice of Behavior Analysts and other professionals who are trained, and who do already have ABA within our scope of practice. SLP's receive no substantive ABA training or field experience as part of their requirements to become an SLP.

In addition, there is a requirement in Connecticut (Public Act 11-209) that any profession must first submit a request to the Department of Public Health for a Scope of Practice Review prior to submitting legislation to revise an existing scope of practice which should have been submitted prior to proposing this expansion of an SLP's existing scope of practice. According to the Public Health Department Records, no submission or review of an expanded SLP scope of practice was conducted prior to this proposed legislation.

Thank you for your attention.

Gabriella True